

Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2007 ~ 8:00 am

7th Floor, Council Conference Room

Renton City Hall

In Attendance:

Jerri Everett, Kristi Hand, Pat Pepper, Britt Peterson, Patricia Riggs, Mike O'Halloran, Linda Middlebrooks, Dawn Murin, Ellie Simpson.

Absent:

Evelyn Reingold, excused.

Staff:

Peter Renner, Vincent Orduna, Diane Wagner

VISITORS

Welcome to Mr. Frederick Lund, who recently applied for a current opening, was interviewed in June and is here for a second interview. This interview will directly following the meeting.

Welcome to who is here for an interview for the current opening and will be interviewed directly following Mr. Lund.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 am by Chair Pat Pepper.

Terry Higashiyama, Community Services Administrator, discussed the Arts Master Plan. RMAC is in the beginning stage of developing a Master Plan with the recently formed Panther Task Force. Terry was involved with the Master Plan at the City of Bellevue. The task force will put together an approach and develop a plan to bring to Council. Terry gave Pat Pepper a draft of Bellevue's Master Plan for reference purposes.

June 28, 2007, will be the first meeting for the City's 2008 budget. Terry said if RMAC wants funds for a Master Plan, now would be the time to get started. A motion is required to move forward and request funds to work with the Community Services Department to request budget funds to develop a Master Plan. The task force should determine the amount of funds desired and create a narrative to propose to the Council. Terry clarified the funding approval process/timeline and will provide a calendar for future budget meetings and council approval dates.

Peter added that the Panther Force is working on a new flow chart for the art project approval process that will involve the Council. One component is to develop a Master Plan so Council feels RMAC is following a blue print as to where the 1% for Arts will be utilized. The goal is to have the Council feel comfortable with the project approval process and have input in advance. Ideas were discussed to add to the Master Plan. Terry suggested putting all ideas down then modifying the list as the plan is created.

Peter distributed a copy of the Panther Force 1% for Arts Draft Graph for the proposed Art's Commission procedures and revisions. Peter explained the graphs in detail and answered questions. Terry also mentioned this item would be discussed with the Community Services Council Committee next week.

Britt made the motion to move forward with a Master Plan as follows, "The Arts Commission recommends seeking funds in the 2008 budget for a Master Plan for Arts and Culture".

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Ellie made a motion for an Amendment to add “with the support of the Community Services Department”, second by Linda Middlebrooks. All voted in favor, motion passed.

Final motion: **“The Arts Commission recommends seeking funds in the 2008 budget for a Master Plan for arts and culture with the support of the Community Services Department”.**

Terry mentioned this years’ Kyes Scholarship changed to allow teachers to apply for funds for school projects. Qwest was added to the Kyes Scholarship by donating funds and now has some shared sponsorship.

Pat Pepper introduced Liz Stewart, Renton History Museum Manager, who attended the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Miscellaneous changes were made to the May minutes. Linda Middlebrooks moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Ellie. All voted in favor, minutes approved with corrections.

AGENDA

The following item was added to New Business on the Agenda:

- Sculpture Park: Patricia Riggs/Anthony Howe Art

BUDGET REVIEW

Peter advised there have been no changes to the budget as of the last meeting, other than the donations agreed upon at the May meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Miscellaneous mail and flyers were passed around for review.

OLD BUSINESS

The Action Item list was reviewed. Please see below under Old Business and/or review Action List for updates.

NEW BUSINESS

SCULPTURE GARDEN

Pat Riggs discussed her ideas and noted she is looking for guidance. The size of park she visualizes is a very large major park but she’s not sure if land is available. Linda remarked that maybe a traveling or revolving sculpture show could be an option so that people could check it out more often than just visiting once and also see something different on occasion.

Kristi remarked on an idea she has about a possible memorial-tree. The Troll in Fremont, along with a few other ideas, were her inspiration. This remembrance tree would have brims and seats and a center made out of concrete to look like a sculptured tree. Each leaf would have a stamp of aluminum with an individual

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remembrance of any kind, i.e. wedding, anniversary, birthday, etc. Pat Pepper suggested this is a little premature but to hold onto the idea as it is worth consideration.

PASSPORT ART: Progressing. The drawing for the coloring contest for Kid's Day during Renton River Days is complete along with the map. Doug Kyes created the drawing and map and it is of different children's art at Liberty Park. The map of children's art is for kids to follow and when the art piece is found, it asks for the artist's name. Once completed it is identified with the child's name and put into a box for the drawing. The winner will receive four rubber-duck race tickets. All children can enter and can color the map too. Kristi asked about volunteers for the booth and suggested at least three people man the booth at a time. There is 28 shifts to fill. She asked all to pass around the booth sign up sheet and participate. Kristi will bring the supplies, i.e. craft paper, crayons, etc., and a cooler with water. She will also set up the booth. There is two hour increments for the booth sign up sheet during the weekdays and three hours each on the weekend.

ART FOR COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM WALL: Project pending.

SIGN REGULATION: Pat wanted all members to have working knowledge of the City's sign regulation in case someone asks or a discussion comes up. She asked that the members keep the regulation with their Art Commission paperwork.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Patricia Riggs discussed artist Anthony Howe's work and passed around pictures from his internet site. She said she spoke to him about the possibility of children/people being hurt on his work and he stated it's made in a way that would not allow anyone to climb. She thought the open space in Coulon Park, on the hill where there is no art, would be a great space for something like this. She thought it would be nice to have a signature piece in Renton similar to Seattle's Space Needle. Patricia gave a brief history of the artist, directions to his gallery, and his shop hours. Dawn noted she saw a piece on this artist on television and said the work looks great and very hypnotic. Patricia also discussed the maintenance of art and stated it was very minimal. Terry Higashigama noted she worked with this artist in the past at the City of Bellevue. She said he usually likes to design a piece to fit the location where the art would be placed. Ellie asked about funding. Comments were made that maybe it could be included in the Master Plan, Sculpture Park, or the 2nd and Main Development. Note: the next meeting for 2nd & Main Development is tonight at 4:30 pm.

Pat Riggs was excused from the meeting early to attend to personal business.

Ellie asked about the sculpture park location. The Sculpture Park is located behind the Sub Shop off Rainier Avenue across the river from the Senior Center, between 55 Williams and the Sub Shop.

Information about Howe's art will be included in the monthly mailing.

RENTON YOUTH FINE ART CENTER

Dawn Murin distributed a proposal she received from Liza Mangum, Renton Youth Fine Arts Center, and discussion followed. The proposal is for an art center/mentoring program that would provide tools/instructions for children as a guide for extended schooling or a future in an art career. The mentoring program would have

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an in-house resident artist who would exchange studio time for teaching. Dawn commented that the location is less important than the concept. Kristi talked about how supplying children with proper instructions and utensils has an outcome that can be amazing and an empowering experience that leaves a lifetime impression. The proposal is something many people are talking about in different realms. A thought was maybe this could also be included in the Master Plan as funding was discussed. This would most likely be an expense to the City but it could be offset with future revenues and it would be a great investment. Dawn has more detailed information and wants to discuss further.

Gallery space was the topic when Britt and Pat P. met with Jennifer Davis Hayes, Community Development Project Manager with the City's Economic Development Department, about a group of artists interested in affordable spaces for studios, workshops, and seminars, a place for creativity for entire community. Britt will invite Dawn to next the meeting with Jennifer Davis Hayes and asked to have Liza call her.

CARCO ARTISTS:

Joey Cetzar's work is on display now. Lois Anderson will be showing in July. August will host a teen/student show. Iain Mangum and Hannah Timmen are local photography artists and their exhibit is scheduled from August 18 through September 28, 2007. Hanna would like to do a reception, which VJ will schedule. A friendly reminder was made that no alcohol is allowed in the theater.

Dawn inquired about the RCC reader board and asked why it is so difficult to read at times. Peter advised the reader board is scheduled for improvements. Per the recent Community Services survey, the sign is the number one way of advertising events. Peter said the post/structure will remain and the sign itself will be replaced. Dawn will check with Susie about adding the artist show details to the reader board.

Dawn asked for opinions on the Decembers Carco Art Shows. It seems to be a very slow time with not much foot traffic and thinks it may be worth skipping the holiday season. Most all agreed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vincent discussed upcoming art related events such as the Evergreen Ballet at Carco this weekend, Renton Concert at Ikea Performing Art Center, the Rainier Choral the following weekend, the movies at the park starts in July after the holiday, and the upcoming Coulon concert series beginning June 27.

Lydia's grocery on 3rd, across from the Farmer's Market location, was recommended for a great new area deli with exotic meats, soul food, and a gallery that includes art displays.

Linda commented on opening day of the Market and said they there was a great turnout of approximately 2,000 people even though all the vendors are not quite participating yet due to crops and other markets. She said it is going to be fabulous season and recommends everyone check it out. Britt noted that Arts Unlimited will display a mini gallery across from the market on Tuesday, June 12, in the parking lot of Big 5.

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Pat suggested all members wear their name tags when out around town such as the Farmer's Market - etc. and to specifically wear to arts events such as the dedications. It is a great way to introduce yourself to the people at the events.

Pat asked for volunteers to stay for Fred Lund's interview to be on the Committee. A few members volunteered.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.

Patricia Pepper, Chair

cc: Terry Higashiyama/Liz Stewart